

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY

From: Robert A. Sturgell, Acting Administrator, AOA-1
(Ext. 7-3111)

Prepared by: Marc L. Warren, Deputy Chief Counsel of Operations, AGC-3
(Ext. 7-3773)

Thru: Kerry B. Long, Chief Counsel, AGC-1
(Ext. 7-3222)

Re: Addendum to Report on American Airlines

SUMMARY

This information, concerning communications between counsel for the FAA and American Airlines (“AA”) pertaining to the April 2008 grounding of MD-80 aircraft, is provided as an addendum to our previously submitted report.

BACKGROUND

On April 8, 2008, an attorney with the FAA Southwest Region Regional Counsel’s Office telephonically contacted an attorney from AA. The caller was an experienced branch manager with a long-standing professional relationship with the AA attorney to whom the call was made. The FAA attorney explained that the call concerned AA’s request, made to an FAA employee, to have more time to comply with an Airworthiness Directive. The FAA attorney informed the AA attorney that the FAA could not allow the affected airplanes to continue to fly while AA accomplished compliance. The AA attorney agreed and said he would provide this view to AA. The conversation did not include airplanes other than the MD-80 aircraft covered by the pertinent Airworthiness Directive, nor was there any discussion whatsoever of any certificate action against AA.

The Secretary

REVIEWED: _____

COMMENTS: _____

DATE: _____